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| | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
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| | 10/620,027 | GERLACH, CHRISTOPHER P. | |
| Notice of Allowability | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Chukwuma O. Nwaonicha | 1621 | |
| The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308. | | | |
| 1. This communication is responsive to | | | |
| 2. The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>1-25</u> . | | | |
| 3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some* c) None of the: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * Certified copies not received: | | | |
| Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE. | | | |
| 4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient. | | | |
| 5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted. | | | |
| (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached | | | |
| 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date | | | |
| (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date | | | |
| Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d). | | | |
| 6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL. | | | |
| Attachment(s) | | 2 | |
| 1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | _ | 5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) | |
| 2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No./Mail Date | | |
| Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/0 Paper No./Mail Date | 08), 7. Examiner's Amend | ment/Comment | |
| 4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8. Examiner's Statem | ent of Reasons for Allowance | |
| JOHANN RICHTEH CUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER GROUP 1200 | | | |

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-25 are pending in the application.

Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- Group 1. Claims 1-9, drawn to Bis(2-acenyl)acetylene compounds, classified in class 585, subclass 26+.
- Group 2. Claim 10-19, drawn to a semiconductor device, classified in class 257, subclass 40+.
- Group 3. Claim 20-25, drawn to a method of making an organic thin film transistor, classified in class 257, subclass 40+.

Inventions Group 1 and Group 2 are related as combination and subcombination. Inventions in this relationship are distinct if it can be shown that (1) the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed for patentability, and (2) that the subcombination has utility by itself or in other combinations (MPEP § 806.05(c)). In the instant case, the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed because such as disclosed in EP 0 275 075. The subcombination has separate utility as disclosed in WO 93/09079.

Inventions of Group 1 and Group 3 are related as product and method of use.

The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be used in a

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materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the process of using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product, such as those disclosed in EP 0 275 075.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter and search of the two groups designated above would impose an undue burden upon the examiner in charge of this application, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

The examiner has required restriction between product and process claims. Where applicant elects claims directed to the product, and a product claim is subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be rejoined in accordance with the provisions of MPEP § 821.04. Process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the patentable product will be entered as a matter of right if the amendment is presented prior to final rejection or allowance, whichever is earlier. Amendments submitted after final rejection are governed by 37 CFR 1.116; amendments submitted after allowance are governed by 37 CFR 1.312. In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103, and 112. Until an elected product claim is found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained. Withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with an allowed product claim will not be rejoined. See "Guidance on Treatment of Product and Process Claims in light of In re Ochiai, In re Brouwer and 35 U.S.C. § 103(b)," 1184 O.G. 86 (March 26, 1996). Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, Applicant is advised that the process claims should be amended during prosecution either to maintain dependency on the product claims or to otherwise include the limitations of the product claims. Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder. Further, note that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. 121 does not apply where the restriction requirement is withdrawn by the examiner before the patent issues. See MPEP § 804.01.

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During a telephone conversation with Kent Kokko on 8/31/05, a provisional election was made without traverse to prosecute the invention of Group 1, claims 1-9, Affirmation of this election must be made by applicant in replying to this Office Action. Groups 2 and 3, claims 10-25 are withdrawn from further consideration by the Examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

Applicants' are reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Priority

Applicants' claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) is acknowledged.

The Examiner expressly withdraws the *Election/Restrictions*. Since the elected invention has been found allowable, Group 2 and Group 3 have been rejoined with Group 1, and have also been found allowable.

Allowed Claims

Claims 1-25 are allowable over the prior art of record.

Reason For Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Applicants claim bis(2-acenyl)acetylene compounds of the general formula 1; wherein all the variables are as defined in the claims. The bis(2-acenyl)acetylene compounds of the

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general formula 1 were neither found to be obvious nor anticipated by the prior art of record.



formula 1

A search of the prior art failed to uncover any reference that teaches or motivates one of ordinary skill to disclose bis(2-acenyl)acetylene compounds of the general formula 1 as claim by applicants.

All claims (1-25) are allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chukwuma O. Nwaonicha whose telephone number is 571-272-2908. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday, 8:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Johann R. Richter can be reached on 571-272-0646. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Chukwuma O. Nwaonicha, Ph.D.

Patent Examiner Art Unit: 1621

Johann R. Richter, Ph.D., Esq. Supervisory Patent Examiner, Technology Center 1600 Page 6